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October 9, 2025

London Bishop Sarah Mullally Chosen as Next Archbishop of Canterbury

[Episcopal News Service] London Bishop Sarah Mullally has been chosen as the next archbishop of Canterbury, becoming the first woman to serve in the historic leadership role for both the Church of England and the worldwide Anglican Communion.



The archbishop of Canterbury, as the most senior bishop in the Church of England, is seen as an "instrument of communion" among the 42 autonomous, interdependent provinces that make up the 85-million-member Anglican Communion, all of which, including The Episcopal Church, have historic ties with the Church of England.

Mullally's nomination as the 106th archbishop of Canterbury was approved by King Charles III, a largely ceremonial step in a process overseen by the Church of England, though her selection followed months of deliberation by the Crown Nominations Commission with input from Anglicans around the world. The selection now must be ratified by the College of Canons of Canterbury Cathedral later this year and confirmed at a ceremony in January, after which she will take office.

Mullally, 63, has served as the bishop of London since 2018. She was ordained to the priesthood in 2001 after a career as a nurse treating cancer patients. An installation service for the new archbishop of Canterbury is scheduled for March 2026 at Canterbury Cathedral.

Read much more [here](#).



Diocesan Convention Registration is Now Open



The 160th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

An In-Person Gathering at Trinity Cathedral
Saturday, November 15, 2025, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

All convention documents, as they become available, will be available on the diocesan website at www.episcopalpgh.org/resources/2025-diocesan-convention/.
The tentative Convention Agenda is available [here](#).

Convention Registration for all Clergy, Lay Deputies, and guests is now open at: <https://episcopalpgh.wufoo.com/forms/2025-diocesan-convention-registration/>
The registration deadline is Wednesday, November 5.



2025 Pre-Convention Gatherings

There will be two online pre-convention gatherings to review and ask questions about the budget, resolutions, elected positions, and more with diocesan and convention leadership in attendance.

This will be the best opportunity to ask questions about the budget and resolutions and will help us have an efficient Convention on November 15.

There will also be a brief Convention primer for those that are new deputies.

Wednesday, October 22, 6:30-8 p.m.

Register here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/C6le8eyERap0yXqpu8PMQ>

Saturday, October 25, 9:30-11 a.m.

Register here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/ujFWjU18TI-sP6i0yqyKqw>

Please contact amuhl@episcopalpgh.org with any questions.



Diocesan Transitions

New Calls

The Rev. Jay Geisler began serving as Vicar of All Saints, Brighton Heights, on September 1, 2025. Jay retired from his previous role as Rector of St. Peter's, Brentwood, in 2022 and has since served as a supply priest in both our diocese and the Diocese of Northwest Pennsylvania. Jay also remains active in addiction and recovery ministries.

The Rev. Julie Smith began serving as Priest-in-Charge of St. Barnabas, Brackenridge, on September 1, 2025. Julie had been serving as St. Barnabas' regular supply priest since December 2024, following the illness and subsequent death of the parish's previous Priest-in-Charge, the Rev. Frank Yesko. Julie also continues her work as a chaplain at Redstone Highlands senior communities.

Upcoming Retirement

The Rev. Deacon Darrell Johnson will retire from active ministry on October 31. Darrell was ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Dorsey McConnell in May 2021 and has served as Deacon at St. Brendan's, Franklin Park, since that time.

Diocesan Staff Transitions

Effective September 1, **Marlene Rihn** has been promoted to Senior Accountant and Assistant Treasurer for the diocese. She previously held the title of Senior Financial Administrator. Marlene has been a valuable member of our diocese's financial and administrative team for over 15 years.

The Rev. Joann Saylor, Canon to the Ordinary for Mission, Vitality, and Administration, has assumed the role of Treasurer, which had been vacant since Rebecca Steiner's departure from diocesan staff at the end of July. The appointment was approved by Diocesan Council, as required by our diocesan canons, at its September 9 meeting.

The Rev. Kimberly Karashin will be stepping away from her position as Canon to the Ordinary for Transitions and Clergy & Congregational Care at the end of this year. Kim has served in various roles on the diocesan staff since November

was born and lives in Jerusalem, where, with his family, he operates Qumri Pilgrimages.

He is a member of the St. George's Anglican Cathedral in Jerusalem and is a Canon of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles. During the adult forum, he will share about the current situation for Palestinian Christians in the Holy Land. He will also be talking about our hopeful pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2026. Please join us for this special visit from our friend in Jerusalem and learn firsthand about life in the Holy Land right now.



VACCINE CLINIC

**Sunday, Oct 19th
9am - 12noon**

**St. Andrew's
5801 Hampton St**



- Flu Vaccine (including egg-free and 65+)
- Covid Vaccine (new booster for 2025)

No sign up required--bring insurance information and forms
Bring a Giant Eagle card to receive coupons for 10% off groceries

Visit www.standrewspgh.org/vaccines for downloadable forms
and more information on the many qualifying
health conditions for the Covid booster.

Allies for Health and Wellbeing will also be on site for those
needing to be connected to health care or assistance
signing up for insurance.



The Way of the Heart
*A Retreat with
Cynthia Bourgeault*



**NOV. 2-4, 2025
SANDSCREST CONFERENCE & RETREAT CENTER
WHEELING WV**

Cynthia Bourgeault is a modern-day mystic, Episcopal priest, writer and internationally known retreat leader. She will engage with Sandscrest guests Nov. 2-4 in a retreat sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia.

The retreat will begin at 5 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 2 and conclude 11 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 4. Cost is \$225 and includes all programming, dinner on Sunday and both lunch and dinner on Monday.

Retreat activities will include opportunities to engage in centering prayer, the Daily Office, holy silence and fellowship.

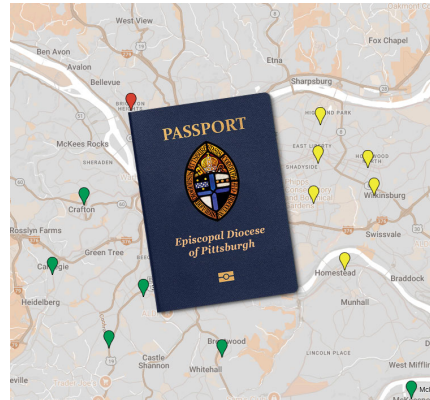
No on-site lodging is available for this event. But rooms blocks are available a few minutes away at The Hampton Inn, 795 National Rd., Wheeling for \$124 per night and at Oglebay Resort & Conference Center's Wilson Lodge, 465 Lodge Dr., Wheeling for \$135 per night.

To register, go to the online form on the website of the West Virginia Diocese of the Episcopal Church at www.wvdiocese.org. For more information, contact Canon Catherine Saxe at csaxe@wvdiocese.org.



Diocesan Passport Program

It is with both excitement and a heartfelt invitation: the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh's Fellowship Committee is launching an innovative **"Diocesan Passport Program,"** designed to deepen our connections with one another, broaden our understanding of the varied expressions of parish life in our midst, and remind us that sometimes we don't truly see our own home until we've had the joy of traveling beyond it.



Why a Passport Program?

We all know the thrill of setting foot in a place we've never been before—the new faces, the unfamiliar sights, the surprising ways others worship and serve. In that moment of discovery, our hearts expand, and we gain fresh perspectives on our own traditions. If you've ever returned from a trip halfway around the world and described your hometown differently, you know exactly what we mean!

The Diocesan Passport Program brings that spirit of pilgrimage home, inviting each of us to step outside the walls of our own parish, meet fellow Episcopalians, and celebrate the rich tapestry of faith we share across the diocese.

For more details about the program and how it works, [click here](#).





SUPPORT A CENTRAL SERVICE FOR THE POOR OF PITTSBURGH

Federal funding cuts have severely impacted Trinity Cathedral Walk-In Ministry's access to items from the food bank. You can help them maintain their current level of service to the community by planning to attend this year's very special Harvest Fest Outreach Fundraiser.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

1066 Washington Rd, Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228

412-531-7153 stpaulspgh.org

Tickets will be \$25, with additional opportunities to give. More details, and the delicious menu, will be released soon!



The Calvary Community invites you to the

ANNUAL BAZAAR

**SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 8
10 A.M. – 3 P.M.**

**Attic Treasures, Silent Auctions, Jewelry,
Handmade Crafts, Baked Goods, Plants,
Antiques & Collectables, Books, *and more***



CALVARY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
315 Shady Ave at Walnut St., East Liberty, 15206
www.calvarypgh.org



Holy Hikes Southwest Pennsylvania

St. Michael's of the Valley, Ligonier and St. Francis in the Fields, Somerset have partnered to launch an official chapter of [Holy Hikes](#) in the Diocese, known as Holy Hikes of Southwest Pennsylvania. We piloted a series of hikes in 2024, as a way to test how the ministry would go and to understand how congregations might collaborate.



Saturday, October 18, 2025 - 10:00 am
Ohiopyle State Park - [Meadow Run Trail](#) - 2.9 miles - easy

[Read more about Holy Hikes Southwest Pennsylvania here.](#)



Around the Diocese



Bishop Ketlen's Schedule:

October 12: St. Francis-in-the-Fields, Somerset

October 19: St. Paul's, Kittanning (a.m.)

October 19: St. Michael's, Rural Valley (p.m.)

November 2: Advent, Jeannette

November 23: St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon

Parish leadership is reminded to complete a form, available in [PDF](#) or [Word](#), at least two weeks in advance of their visitation.

Bishop Ketlen's 2025 visitation schedule, August – December 2025, is [available here](#).
The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer for July – December 2025, is [available here](#).

To schedule time with Bishop Ketlen, contact Andrea Rath at 412-721-0853, ext. 251, or arath@episcopalpgh.org.



Parting Shots

A Baptism in Scottdale

On Saturday, September 27, Diana Jackson was baptized in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit by Bishop Ketlen during a festive visitation.



Pet Blessing in Canonsburg

The Rev. Jim Miorelli and the folks at St. Thomas, Canonsburg were featured blessing the neighborhood pets in the Observer-Reporter in Washington, PA, on Tuesday, October 7 in recognition of the Feast of St. Francis.

288 Giving his blessing

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 The Rev. Jim Miorelli, center, blesses a dog on Saturday at St. Thomas' Episcopal Church in Canonsburg. The Christian tradition of blessing pets coincides with commemorations of St. Francis of Assisi, who was known for his close connections to animals.

Pet Blessing in Johnstown

Saint Francis is the patron saint of all animals and in honor of the Feast of St. Francis, Saint Mark's in Johnstown held a Blessing of the Animals event on Saturday, October 4, in the church courtyard. The event was covered by WJAC-TV on Sunday, October 5.



Bishop Ketlen Visits St. Thomas, Northern Cambria

A wonderful crowd gathered to welcome Bishop Ketlen to Homewood on Sunday, September 28.



Bishop Ketlen Visited St. Mark's, Johnstown

Clearly, there was too much fun going on during Bishop Ketlen's visit on Sunday, October 5.



Pumpkin Pie Sunday at Saint Barnabas, Brackenridge

What a wonderful day we shared on Sunday, September 21! The Cantate Usquam Pilgrim Singers filled our sanctuary with beautiful music, and our time of fellowship—complete with delicious pumpkin pie—was filled with joy and connection.

With open arms, we welcomed our new Priest-in-Charge, the Rev. Dr. Julie Smith (Mother Julie), into the hearts of Saint Barnabas. There is so much to be thankful for!

--Karen Davidek



Has your parish been featured in the news? Do you have an event or content to share? Please let us know via email at info@episcopalpgh.org



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